THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

Caption in Compliance with D.N.J. LBR 9004-1(b)

BRYANT MILLER OLIVE P.A.

Alan S. Zimmet, B.C.S. Noah M. Daiker, Esq. 201 N Franklin St #2700 Tampa, FL 33602 (813) 273-6677 azimmet@bmolaw.com ndaiker@bmolaw.com

In re:

BED BATH & BEYOND INC., et al.,

Debtors.

JEANNE A. NAUGHTON, CLERK DEC 2 2 2023

U.S. BANKRUPTCY COURT
IRENTON, NJ
BY \_\_\_\_\_DEPUT

Chapter 11 (Jointly Administered)

Case No. 23-13359 (VFP)

## MOTION OF CITY OF LARGO TO FILE CLAIMS AFTER BAR DATE

Movant, the City of Largo, by and through the undersigned attorneys, hereby files this Motion to File Claims After Bar Date and in support thereof states as follows:

- 1. Movant is a Florida municipal corporation that provides public utility services, including refuse and stormwater services, to properties within its municipal boundaries.
- 2. Bed Bath & Beyond, Inc. ("Debtor") filed a Chapter 11 bankruptcy petition under 11 U.S.C. §101. et seq. on April 23, 2023.
- 3. Debtor operated a retail store within Movant's municipal boundaries located at 10500 Ulmerton Road, Suite 310, which received refuse and stormwater services from the Movant.
- 4. As of the date that Debtor filed its bankruptcy petition, Debtor was indebted to the Movant in the amounts of \$2,576.00 for the provision of refuse services, \$1,607.78 for the

provision of stormwater services, and \$43.32 in utility taxes. These amounts, totaling \$4,227.10, were due to Movant on April 18, 2023, and have not been paid.

- 5. Since the date that Debtor filed its bankruptcy petition, it has accumulated an additional \$11,289.02 in overdue utility payments, which have likewise not been paid.
- 6. Despite Debtor's indebtedness to the Movant at the time of Debtor's filing for bankruptcy, the Movant was not listed on the schedules filed by the Debtor pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3003.
- 7. The Movant did not receive notice of Debtor's bankruptcy proceedings until it received the Notice of (I) Entry of the Order (A) Approving the Disclosure Statement on a Final Basis and (B) Confirming the Second Amended Joint Chapter 11 Plan of Bed Bath & Beyond Inc. and its Debtor Affiliates and (II) Occurrence of the Effective Date filed on September 29, 2023, which was received by the Movant on or around October 19, 2023.
- 8. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(a) requires that all creditors receive 21 days' notice by mail of, among other things, the meeting of creditors and the time fixed by this Court for filing proofs of claim pursuant to Rule 3003(c).
- 9. "Fair or adequate notice has two basic elements: content and delivery." Fogel v. Zell, 221 F.3d 955, 962 (7th Cir. 2000). "If the notice is unclear, the fact that it was received will not make it adequate," Id.; if the notice is not received, it is "inadequate unless the means chosen to deliver it was reasonable." Id. at 963.
- 10. "[E]ven creditors who have knowledge of a [bankruptcy case] have a right to assume that the statutory 'reasonable notice' will be given them before their claims are forever barred." City of New York v. New York, N. H. & H. R. Co., 344 U.S. 293, 297 (1953).

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11. In addition to not having received timely formal notice of these proceedings,

Movant did not receive any informal notice or otherwise have actual knowledge of Debtor's

bankruptcy proceedings or the applicable bar dates set by the Court until it received the notice

referenced in paragraph 6 above.

12. As Debtor did not deliver timely notice to Movant, Debtor did not provide Movant

with fair and adequate notice of these proceedings, as required by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(a).

Movant was not appraised of the pendency of this action and was not afforded an opportunity to

timely file its proof of claim before the applicable bar dates fixed by the Court had passed.

WHEREFORE, Movant respectfully requests that this Honorable Court permit the Movant

to file its proof of claim within an amount of time deemed reasonable by the Court and have the

Movant's proof of claim deemed filed timely.

Dated: December 18, 2023

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alan S. Zimmet

Alan S. Zimmet, B.C.S.

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

Undersigned counsel hereby certifies that on December 18, 2023, true and correct copies of the foregoing document was served upon the parties listed on the attached service list in the manner indicated on all parties:

#### BRYANT MILLER OLIVE P.A.

/s/ Alan S. Zimmet
Alan S. Zimmet, B.C.S.
FL Bar No. 349615
Noah M. Daiker, Esq.
FL Bar No. 1038577
One Tampa City Center, Suite 2700
Tampa, FL 33602
(813) 273-6677
azimmet@bmolaw.com
ndaiker@bmolaw.com
cmiller@bmolaw.com
mbachman@bmolaw.com
Attorneys for City of Largo

# Service List (All Parties Served Via E-Mail Delivery, Unless Otherwise Indicated)

Michael D. Sirota	Joshua A. Sussberg
Warren A. Usatine	Emily E. Geier
Felice R. Yudkin	Derek I. Hunter
Cole Schotz, P.C.	Ross J. Fiedler
msirota@coleschotz.com	Kirkland & Ellis LLP
wusatine@coleschotz.com	Kirkland & Ellis International LLP
fyudkin@coleschotz.com	Joshua.sussberg@kirkland.com
	Emily.geier@kirkland.com
Counsel to Debtors	derek.hunter@kirkland.com
	ross.fiedler@kirkland.com
·	
·	Co-Counsel to Debtors
Alexandria Nikolinos	Beth E. Levine
Fran B. Steele	Robert J. Feinstein
U.S. Department of Justice	Colin R. Robinson
Alexandria.nikolinos@usdoj.gov	Bradford J. Sandler
fran.b.steele@usdoj.gov	Alan J. Kornfeld
	Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones, LLP
U.S. Trustee	blevine@pszjlaw.com
	rfeinstein@pszjlaw.com
	crobinson@pszjlaw.com
	bsandler@pszjlaw.com
	akornfeld@pszjlaw.com
	Counsel to Official Committee of
	Unsecured Creditors

Bryant Miller-Olive

Attorneys at Law

One Tampa City Center Suite 2700 Tampa, FL 33602 Tel 813.273.6677 Fax 813.223.2705 www.bmolaw.com

December 18, 2023

#### VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Office of Jeanne A. Naughton, Clerk United States Bankruptcy Court District of New Jersey Clarkson S. Fisher U.S. Courthouse 402 East State Street Trenton, NJ 08608

Re:

In Re: Bed Bath & Beyond., et al.

Case No. 23-13359 (VFP)

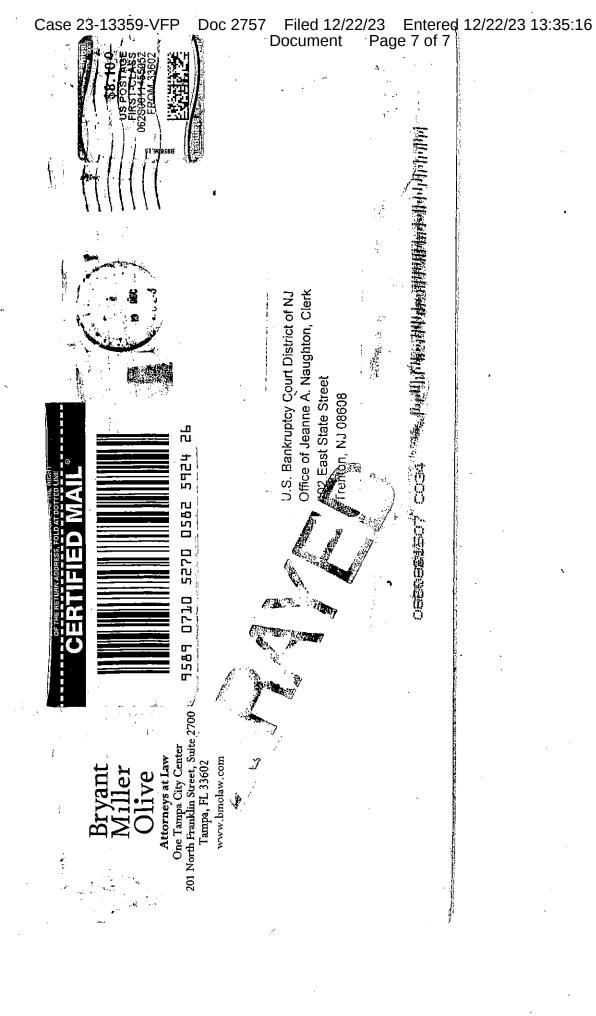
Dear Clerk:

Enclosed please find a copy of a motion of the City of Largo, Florida, to be filed in the above-referenced case. If you should have any questions or if the City can provide you with anything further in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Respectfully,

Noah M. Daiker, Esq.

**Enclosures** 



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